

Serial No. 10/803,766
60246-347; 10914

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method of maintaining a temperature in a refrigerated compartment, the method comprising the steps of:
 - cooling the refrigerated compartment;
 - detecting the temperature in the refrigerated compartment;
 - providing a user generated signal to stop the step of cooling for a predetermined amount of time;
 - stopping the step of cooling in response to the user generated signal if when the temperature in the refrigerated compartment is at or below a predetermined temperature; and
 - resuming the step of cooling the refrigerated compartment after the predetermined amount of time.
2. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method as recited in claim 1 further ~~comprising~~ including the steps of:
 - compressing a refrigerant to a high pressure;
 - cooling the refrigerant;
 - expanding the refrigerant to a low pressure; and
 - heating the refrigerant, and wherein the step of heating the refrigerant includes accepting heat from a fluid medium to cool the refrigerated compartment.
3. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method as recited in claim 2 wherein the step of heating ~~comprises~~ includes employing a first evaporator and a second evaporator.
4. (ORIGINAL) The method as recited in claim 3 further including the step of operating the first evaporator and the second evaporator independently.
5. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method as recited in claim 1 wherein the step of providing the user generated signal comprises pressing a button.
6. (ORIGINAL) The method as recited in claim 1 wherein the predetermined amount of time is between 5 minutes and 120 minutes.

Serial No. 10/803,766
60246-347; 10914

7. (ORIGINAL) The method as recited in claim 6 wherein the predetermined amount of time is between 15 minutes and 30 minutes.

8 (ORIGINAL) The method as recited in claim 1 wherein the predetermined amount of time is between 8 hours and 48 hours.

9. (ORIGINAL) The method as recited in claim 1 wherein the refrigerated compartment is one of a display case and a service cabinet.

10. (ORIGINAL) The method as recited in claim 1 wherein the refrigerated compartment is employed with medical and scientific applications.

11. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method as recited in claim 1 further ~~comprising~~ including the step of providing a user generated second signal to begin cooling the refrigerated compartment before the predetermined amount of time has passed.

12. (ORIGINAL) The method as recited in claim 1 wherein the method is monitored remotely.

13-14. (CANCELLED)

15. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A system for maintaining a temperature in a refrigerated compartment, the system comprising:

a controller to regulate the temperature in the refrigerated compartment;

a temperature sensor to detect the temperature in the refrigerated compartment; and

an evaporator to cool the refrigerated compartment, wherein the evaporator stops cooling the refrigerated compartment for a predetermined amount of time in response to a user generated signal ~~from the controller when and if~~ the sensor detects that the temperature in the refrigerated container is at or below predetermined temperature.

Serial No. 10/803,766
60246-347; 10914

16. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The system as recited in claim 15 further ~~comprising~~including:

a compressor to compress a refrigerant to a high pressure;
a condenser for cooling the refrigerant; and
an expansion device to expand the refrigerant to a low pressure.

17. (ORIGINAL) The system as recited in claim 15 wherein the evaporator heats a refrigerant by accepting heat from a fluid medium, and the fluid medium cools the refrigerated compartment.

18. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The system as recited in claim 15 further comprising a button to generate the user generated signal.

19. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The system as recited in claim 15 further comprising ~~more than one button~~ a plurality of buttons to generate the user generated signal.

20. (ORIGINAL) The system as recited in claim 15 wherein the predetermined amount of time is between 15 minutes and 30 minutes.

21. (CANCELLED)

22. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The system as recited in claim 15 further including ~~an~~ a second evaporator.

23. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method as recited in claim 1 wherein the step of stopping the step of cooling occurs when the temperature in the refrigerated compartment is at or below the predetermined temperature for a programmed amount of time.

24. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The system as recited in claim 15 wherein the evaporator stops cooling the refrigerated container when the temperature in the refrigerated compartment is at or below the predetermined temperature for a programmed amount of time.

Serial No. 10/803,766
60246-347; 10914

25. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The system as recited in claim 16 further including a solenoid valve located between the condenser and the expansion device, wherein the user generated signal ~~from the controller~~ closes the solenoid valve.

26. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The system as recited in claim 15 further including an evaporator fan that blows air over the evaporator, wherein the user generated signal ~~from the controller~~ inactivates the evaporator fan.

27. (NEW) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the refrigerated compartment is accessible by a door, and the step of providing the user generated signal occurs when the door is to be opened to access the refrigerated compartment.

28. (NEW) The system as recited in claim 15, further including a door, wherein the refrigerated compartment is accessible by the door, and the user generated signal is generated when the door is to be opened to access the refrigerated compartment.